

JCM + 6 -
RESO 11-15

TO: Committee on Executive Matters and Legislative Affairs

FROM: Natalie Iwasa
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REGULAR
MEETING: Monday, February 7, 2011, 1 p.m.

SUBJECT: Resolution 11-15 Rule 18, Reconsideration - SUPPORT

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Aloha Members of the Honolulu City Council,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of changes to Rule No. 18, Reconsideration, contained in resolution 11-15. Following is an outline of what happened with Bill 51(09):

- Introduced 7/1/09 shortly after Mayor Hannemann announced he was going to get those awful "speculators and investors";
- Full council hearings on 7/15/09, 8/26/09 and 10/27/09 and budget committee hearings on 8/12/09, 9/2/09, and 10/7/09 (bill was deferred in September budget committee);
- Councilmembers asked, and city administration responded, at least **three times** about timelines and deadlines to be met in order to implement the separate classifications;
- On Wednesday, October 27, 2009, Rix Maurer III, then director of budget and fiscal services, was in the audience during discussions of Bill 51 and offered no additional testimony;
- About 15 minutes after the bill died, Kirk Caldwell, then city managing director, stormed into the council chambers and spoke to a couple of people;
- During the afternoon, several councilmembers met with then Mayor Hannemann behind closed doors (during the controversial issue of bed and breakfasts, Bill 7);
- The public went home thinking the bill died, and Councilmember Djou, who opposed the bill, left the afternoon hearing in preparation for off-island travel;
- At approximately 6:30 p.m., Mr. Caldwell asked for reconsideration with the explanation that the city's programming consultant determined "the opportunity is now" to meet their deadlines; and
- Several Councilmembers Apo, Okino, Tam and Garcia, changed their votes to pass Bill 51.

There were plenty of opportunities for the city to lobby councilmembers over the four-month period of hearings and discussions - the request for reconsideration was simply use of a loophole for the **personal benefit** of Hannemann and Caldwell and **is not an acceptable method of making laws**. I urge you to vote yes in support of this resolution.